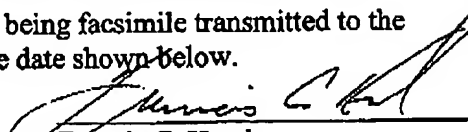


CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.

MARCH 6, 2006
Date


Francis C. Hand

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Art Unit: 3763

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Vincent L. Vaillancourt, deceased
Serial No: 10/773,538
Deposited: February 6, 2004
Title: Needle Guard

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2005.